

## NO ONE TO BLAME.

## Result of a Marine Board Investigation.

Appended is the report of the testimony, and result of the investigation held in regard to the reported near approach to a collision between the steaming steamers Kinau and W. G. Hall, and which occurred on the night of the 11th of October last:

HON. A. S. CLEGGHORN, Collector-General of Customs.

Sir,—In obedience to your request we have taken testimony from the steamers Kinau and W. G. Hall's people in regard to what might have been a collision on the night of October 11th, 1889, and from the evidence before us we glean the following facts, viz:

According to the W. G. Hall's statement she was the inshore ship on this particular night and saw the steamer Kinau's green light on her starboard bow, from two to four points according to the version of different witnesses.

According to the Kinau's statement she was the inshore ship and saw the Hall's red light on her port bow three points. One witness saw both side lights at the same time and apparently right ahead.

After the Kinau gave one blast of the whistle and ported his wheel, and the Hall answered with one blast and starboarded his wheel, the Hall made a mistake in answering with one blast, whilst carrying starboard wheel.

In the face of such conflicting evidence it is impossible to say, when or by whom the first mistake was committed, each party feeling that he had used the best means to avoid collision, according to the position he believed the two ships to occupy.

According to the evidence of both ships the lights were in proper position and burning and the officers at their stations.

We recommend that in order to avoid any future disaster, a rule should be laid down by both companies, whereby a steamer coming from Maalea Bay bound to Lahaina should keep the inshore track and a steamer bound the other way keep off shore, so each ship by porting her wheel will keep clear of the other, and that the officers of steamers will be especially cautioned to pay strict attention to the signals by whistles according to the recognized rules of the road.

A. FULLER, Harbor Master.  
E. P. STEPHENS, Pilot.  
H. W. MIST, Capt. R. N., ret'd.  
Honolulu, Nov. 4, 1889.

## HAWAII FOR HEALTH.

One of the many visitors to these islands of the mid-Pacific, being asked for an opinion regarding the recuperative qualities of Hawaiian climate published the following article in a California paper; the article states:

It is not surprising that a trip to the Hawaiian Islands should be recommended in cases of sickness in which a change of climate is considered necessary for cure. For some years past the glorious climate of California appears to have deserted the city of San Francisco. Hail, rain and snow too often alternate with sunshine to be agreeable to invalids. A robust constitution, a good digestion and temperate habits alone enable a man to bear successfully the sudden changes of temperature which are felt in passing from one side of the street to the other. The heavy fogs are productive of catarrh and rheumatism. From December to April there is a high mortality from pneumonia. Indeed, so dangerous is now the climate of this city, that every one threatened with lung disease is promptly ordered to seek a more congenial atmosphere, and what more natural than a visit to the Hawaiian Islands? The voyage is itself a restful change. Once out of port there are no letters or telegrams to distract the attention. In the well-appointed steamers which traverse the Pacific the discomforts of a sea trip are reduced to a minimum, and the invalid must indeed be low who does not rally speedily from the preliminary attack of sickness, under the joint effects of smooth and rapid movement, comfortable berths, obliging and attentive officers, excellent food and pure air. And at the islands what a restful change! A temperature of 75 degrees at night and 80 degrees by day; a gentle breeze from the south, or a more invigorating trade wind to moderate the sense of heat, whilst now and again a few light showers purify the air and lay the dust.

In Honolulu the invalid throws off his heavy wraps and basks in the lovely atmosphere. He lounges in the verandah through the livelong day, and at night watches the rising of the Great Bear, without the suspicion of a chill. With the window of his bed-room open, he needs a coverlet and blanket, and in the early morning he rises with the sun, refreshed and hungry for his breakfast. Those who will benefit most from a stay in the islands are, first the convalescents from acute pneumonia and acute diseases generally, as contracted in San Francisco. To such the rest and quiet life, the agreeable temperature and lovely scenery are invaluable, and if the residence in Honolulu should be varied by a visit to the other islands, and by a residence on a somewhat elevated situation, the health will certainly be re-established. The climate of the Islands is well adapted for the treatment and relief of those diseases in which a free action of the skin is most desirable. Many disorders of the liver and digestive organs are greatly relieved by this means. Sufferers from disorders of the kidneys, and particularly those who have the beginnings of Bright's disease, are greatly assisted, if not cured. Under the soothing influence of warmth and moisture, irritability of the nervous system is diminished and neuralgias are often cured.

## The English Language in Japan.

In the public schools of Japan the English language is required to be taught by law. One needs no prophet's vision to foresee that the English language will be the ruling language of the Island Empire in fifty years. The brightest and most ambitious of the young men in the open ports and commercial cities of China are all eager to learn English as a passport to wealth, position and employment. The native preacher must needs learn English, or they will have no resources to fall back upon in their preparations for the

## MEMORIAL TABLETS.

## A Special Visit to Kawaiahao Cemetery.

The Bingham memorial tablet at Kawaiahao Church, the unveiling of which was described last week at some length, has been visited by many people since. It is a slab of pure white marble, about five feet high and three feet wide, engraved by J. D. Lane of this city, and is inserted in the north corner of the front wall. It occupies a conspicuous position, directly opposite the Douglas slab, which is in the front west corner of the edifice, and is smaller than the Bingham slab. Some who see this for the first time, ask who Douglas was? He was a young Scotch scientific traveler and explorer, who lost his life by falling into one of the fern-covered caves on the slope of Mauna Kea, in the year 1834. The inscription on the tablet is in Latin, and reads as follows:

Hic jacet D. David Douglas,  
Scotia anno 1799 natus,  
qui indefessus viator,  
a Londinensi Regia Societate  
Horticulturali missus in Hawaii.  
Satibus die 124 Julii, A. D. 1834.  
Victime Scientiae interit.

Sunt lacrymae rerum et mentem  
mortalia tangunt.

## About Mynah Birds.

Few persons who have seen the saucy little mynah birds, around their dwellings, ever realize how hard they are to catch. A gentleman who had an order from Australia to procure from twenty to thirty of these birds, has been endeavoring for two months to get them, offering one dollar apiece, but so far without success, although at least a score of natives or Chinamen have been trying their best to trap them. One native, after a long spell of watching, caught six but they managed to escape. Four Chinamen found the roosting place of a large flock in a grove of cocoanut trees, and each man about midnight climbed up a separate tree, so as to make sure of a good haul. One bird only was caught and sounded an alarm of distress, whereupon the whole flock of four or five hundred flew away, though it was pitch dark. Early in the spring when the young are in the nests, they are easily caught but the old birds are too wily to allow themselves to be trapped or caught in any way alive.

## HINTS TO NEWSPAPER CONTRIBUTORS.

There are not a few scholars, fitted for even the Chair of Rhetoric, who are sadly uninformed in the matter of writing for a newspaper. Possibly they could write a book, but their communications must receive a little—often a good deal of—"doctoring" before they are put into the hands of a periodical compositor. Of course, the grammar will usually—by no means uniformly—be satisfactory. What they err in pertains mainly to the mechanical make-up of the manuscript. We note a few particulars where a long experience has discovered amazing defects.

1. Abbreviations are an abomination. No one who really knows "how to write for the paper" ever gives "Pres." for President, or "V. Pres." for Vice-President, or "Thurs." for Thursday. Certain abbreviations are established and printed as such—"Mr.," "Hon.," "Mass.," "Esq.," for examples. But when it is expected that the compositor will put in every letter of a word, those who know "how to write for the paper" will write out every word. In editorial offices where the incumbent feels at liberty to be autocratic, the sight of an abbreviation is the occasion of instant doom. More humble, we usually fight down a vexation and fix the manuscript.

2. It seems a little thing to complain of the writing on little bits of paper. Marriage notices often come on slips less than the size of one's hand. These one must stick to a bigger sheet, else the danger of its blowing away is imminent. Nothing should be put on a sheet of less size than note paper: we are always glad when the size is that of letter sheet. Of course we make no complaint of postal cards.

3. Paragraphing is largely arbitrary. It ought to have regard to the physical appearance. Some of the English newspapers will give a whole column without a break. Of course the paragraph should be made where the sense requires it; and also—provided the sense is not disturbed—with a view to the mechanical appearance. But our special point is, that one who "knows how to write for the paper" will himself indicate—and distinctly—where the paragraph is to begin. We should say that the frequent failure to do this is stupid, but for the fact that intelligent people are often thus negligent.

4. In most newspaper offices a manuscript is often given in parts to different compositors. Therefore but one side of the sheet should be written upon.

5. In this age paper is cheap. We hate to see a communication without a caption, and with the first line so near the top that the editor, guessing what the proper title is, must get a new sheet on which to write it. Be generous in the use of paper.

6. Sometimes a news item, a marriage notice, and a business matter will be crowded in on the same sheet. Then they must be rewritten, or else scissors and paste must be put to use in getting them apart. Every separate matter should be written on a separate sheet.

7. Finally—for ministers especially—care should be taken in reference to Scripture citations. Absolutely, full half the references to chapter and verse are erroneous. Further, the quotation is almost certain to contain an omission or other mistake. This statement may seem almost incredible. But we, who know by much observation,

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